

CAUCASIA AND CENTRAL ASIA

abandoned. Although for some time the Russian Soviet Republic maintained reciprocal diplomatic representations with Bukhara and Khorezm, it was clear from the beginning that the Soviet embassies there were considered more as administrative and revolutionary agencies than as diplomatic missions.^{2*} In Bukhara itself the Young Bukhara and later the Bukharan Communist party were headed by two men, Faizulla Khodjayev and Mukhedinov. Both belonged to well-known Bukharan merchant-class families and competed for power. Mukhedinov was made the first President of the Republic, yet he was of more conservative tendencies than Khodjayev and even displayed some Pan-Islamic orientation. Khodjayev took Marxism more seriously and by his unrelenting struggle to sovietize Bukhara gained the nickname of "Lenin of the Uzbeks." The rift between these two men led eventually to the desertion of Mukhedinov, together with his War Commissar Arifov, to the Basmatchi bands. Khodjayev remained as an uncontested authority in Bukhara and became instrumental in the reorganization of the two Khanates and some former Russian Turkestan territory into a new unit, Uzbekistan, which by 1924 joined the U.S.S.R. as one of the Union republics. Khodjayev became President of the Uzbek S.S.R. and enjoyed this position until 1938, when, together with Rykov, Bukharin, and other right-wing oppositionists, he was condemned as a "fascist spy" and executed.

IRAN'S PLACE IN BRITISH POLITICAL

DOCTRINES:

BRITISH WITHDRAWAL

The events described in the preceding section make it clear that British intervention in Transcaucasia and Central Asia

was possible
only because the British could use Iranian territory as
a transit stage
or as a base for operations. Thus political relations
between Iran
and Great Britain influenced the happenings in the
cis- and trans-
Caspian provinces, and, vice versa, events in these
provinces could
not fail to affect the British position in Iran. Since the
presence of
British troops in the neutral state of Iran during and
immediately
after the first World War was an obvious violation of
neutrality and
of the principle of self-determination, it may be
useful to analyze

24 Alexander Barmine, *One Who Survived* (4th ed.; New York, 1945), p. 97.